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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MARE APPLICATION OF: Manz et al.

SERIAL No.: 09/780,230 FILED: February 9, 2001

FOR: METHOD FOR CONTROLLING SAMPLE INTRODUCTION

IN MICROCOLUMN SEPARATION TECHNIQUES AND

SAMPLING DEVICE

EXAMINER: Starsiak, John S.

ART UNIT: 1753

CONFIRMATION NO: 8918

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Piot

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed September 9, 2003 in the above-identified application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.